Conditions of Indian workers in Middle-East

2230. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the treatment being meted out to Indian workers, particularly maid servants, recruited and sent from South India to the Middle-East countries and also wages and other benefits being given to them; and

(b) if so, what action Government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Indian Missions abroad render all possible assistance to such workers in resolving their complaints.

Enacting of a Bill on social boycott

2231. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Board of Dawoodi Bohra (Reformist) Community have urged the Central Government to bring a legislation against the practice of social boycott/excommunication to curb the growing communal/religious fundamentalism;

(b) whether Government have considered the suggestion; and

(c) if so by when the Bill in this regard is proposed to be introduced in Parliament?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) The Government do not, however, propose to undertake any legislation in this regard at present.

Call for cut in Nuclear Arms

2232. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether 900 eminent persons have asked for cut in nuclear arms and if so what are the details of the proposal and its chances of acceptance by nuclear powers; and

(b) how Government propose to support this proposal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH): (a) More than 900 eminent persons from 80 countries attended an international forum entitled "For a nuclear free world-for the survival of humanity" held in Moscow on February 14-15 1987. The forum called for drastic cuts in the levels of nuclear weapons to promote stability and security.

(b) Government's consistent support for nuclear disarmament, for the elimination of all nuclear weapons and for, in the interim period, a prohibition on the threat or use of nuclear weapons are fully in accordance with the decisions of the forum held in Moscouw.

Supply of arms to Pakistan by Switzerland

2233. SHRI K. VASUDEVA PANICKER: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the supply of arms worth Rs. 26 crores to Pakistan by Switzerland during 1986;

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard;

(c) whether Government have taken up the matter with the Government of Switzerland; and

(d) if so, what is the outcome thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH): (a)